

IN THE CLAIMS:

The text of all pending claims, (including withdrawn claims) is set forth below. Cancelled and not entered claims are indicated with claim number and status only. The claims as listed below show added text with underlining and deleted text with ~~striketrough~~. When strikethrough cannot easily be perceived, or when five or fewer characters are deleted, [[double brackets]] are used to show the deletion. The status of each claim is indicated with one of (original), (currently amended), (previously amended), (cancelled), (withdrawn), (new), (previously presented), or (not entered).

Please AMEND claims 1, 2, 5, 6, 9-13, 14, 15, 17-19, 22, 23, 26-30, 31, 32, 34, 35, 38, 39 and 42-47 and ADD claim 50 in accordance with the following:

1. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) A method for processing physical distribution information, said method comprising:

receiving and registering schedule information, regarding ~~one of a plurality of~~ forms of receiving a package addressed to a customer member, from the customer member, the schedule information comprising at least one of the forms of receiving the package addressed to the customer member for each of a plurality of days within a predetermined period;

if-when a shipment request is received from a sender of a package, determining a delivery form with reference to at least the schedule information of the receiver registered in said receiving and registering if the receiver is a customer member; and

if-when the delivery form determined in said determining involves a movement of the package, generating delivery request information for a distributor in accordance with the delivery form.

2. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The method as set forth in claim 1, further comprising:
if-when the delivery form determined in said determining involves a movement of the package, registering scheduled delivery information in the schedule information of the receiver.

3. (PREVIOUSLY AMENDED) The method as set forth in claim 1, further comprising:
sending the distributor, information regarding the delivery form determined in said determining before starting to deliver the package.

4. (PREVIOUSLY AMENDED) The method as set forth in claim 1, further comprising:
receiving a delivery completion notice comprising receiving status data from the distributor.
5. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The method as set forth in claim 4, further comprising:
giving a predetermined point to the receiver ~~if~~when the receiving status data included in the delivery completion notice indicates the delivery has been performed by following a delivery schedule specified in the delivery form.
6. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The method as set forth in claim 4, further comprising:
giving a predetermined point to the receiver ~~if~~when the delivery form determined in said determining indicates that delivery to a home of the receiver of the package and the receiving status data included in the delivery completion notice indicate that receiving has been performed by following a delivery schedule specified in the delivery form.
7. (PREVIOUSLY AMENDED) The method as set forth in claim 1, further comprising:
receiving and registering information regarding a fixed delivery charge from the distributor after the package is received by the distributor.
8. (PREVIOUSLY AMENDED) The method as set forth in claim 1, wherein the delivery form is determined as undeliverable in said determining.
9. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The method as set forth in claim 1, further comprising:
sending the sender a notice comprising information regarding a deliverable date ~~if~~when the delivery form is determined as undeliverable in said determining.
10. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The method as set forth in claim 1, further comprising:
giving a predetermined point to the receiver ~~if~~when the delivery form is determined as forwarding or keeping in said determining.

11. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The method as set forth in claim 1, wherein in said generating, if-when the delivery form is determined as forwarding or keeping in said determining, delivery request information addressed to the distributor is generated by using forwarding destination information or keeping place information registered for the receiver in advance.

12. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The method as set forth in claim 1, further comprising: receiving and registering information of a specified customer member from the customer member, the specified customer member being different from the customer member, and wherein, in said determining, if-when the receiver is not available for receiving and the specified customer member is registered for the receiver to receive the package on behalf of the receiver, the schedule information for the specified customer member is referenced.

13. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The method as set forth in claim 1, further comprising: if-when a delivery request to a non-member, who is to receive the package, is received from a sender of said package, registering information of the non-member included in the delivery request as provisional customer member information; sending a customer member registration request to the non-member; and sending information registered as the provisional customer member information to the non-member if-when membership registration is requested from the non-member.

14. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The method as set forth in claim 1, wherein in said receiving and registering, schedule information regarding one of the forms of receiving the package addressed to the customer member is received as a predetermined template selection instruction from the customer member.

15. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The method as set forth in claim 1, wherein said determining comprises sending a schedule input request to the receiver if the schedule information ~~pf-of~~ the receiver indicates the schedule information is not fixed.

16. (PREVIOUSLY AMENDED) The method as set forth in claim 1, wherein said determining comprises sending the sender a notice indicating scheduling in progress.

17. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) A method for processing physical distribution requests, said method comprising:

 sending a central server a delivery request of a package, the delivery request specifying at least a receiver; and

 receiving a result notice of delivery scheduling, comprising information that the package is undeliverable, from the central server that determined the delivery scheduling based on at least schedule information, which has been registered for the receiver and comprises a time range that the receiver is unavailable for receiving packages, before starting to deliver the package.

18. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) A program embodied on a medium that controls a computer to process physical distribution information, said program comprising ~~a process of~~:

 receiving schedule information, regarding one of a plurality of forms of receiving a package addressed to a customer member, from a terminal of the customer member, and registering the schedule information in a storage device, the schedule information comprising at least one of the forms of receiving the package addressed to the customer member for each of a plurality of days within a predetermined period;

~~if-when~~ a shipment request is received from a terminal of a sender of a package, determining a delivery form with reference to at least the schedule information of the receiver stored in the storage device if the receiver is a customer member; and

~~if-when~~ the delivery form determined in said determining involves a movement of the package, generating delivery request information for a distributor in accordance with the delivery form.

19. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The program as set forth in claim 18, further comprising:

~~if-when~~ the delivery form determined in said determining involves a movement of the package, registering scheduled delivery information in the schedule information of the receiver.

20. (PREVIOUSLY AMENDED) The program as set forth in claim 18, further comprising:

sending the distributor information regarding the delivery form determined in said determining before starting to deliver the package.

21. (PREVIOUSLY AMENDED) The program as set forth in claim 18, further comprising:

receiving a delivery completion notice comprising receiving status data from a computer of the distributor.

22. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The program as set forth in claim 21, further comprising:

giving a predetermined point to the receiver ~~if~~when the receiving status data included in the delivery completion notice indicates the delivery has been performed by following a delivery schedule specified in the delivery form.

23. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The program as set forth in claim 21, further comprising:

giving a predetermined point to the receiver ~~if~~when the delivery form determined in said determining indicates that delivery to a home of the receiver of the package and the receiving status data included in the delivery completion notice indicate that receiving has been performed by following a delivery schedule specified in the delivery form.

24. (PREVIOUSLY AMENDED) The program as set forth in claim 18, further comprising:

receiving and registering information regarding a fixed delivery charge from a computer of the distributor after the package is received by the distributor.

25. (PREVIOUSLY AMENDED) The program as set forth in claim 18, wherein the delivery form is determined as undeliverable in said determining.

26. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The program as set forth in claim 18, further comprising:

sending the sender a notice comprising information regarding a deliverable date if-when the delivery form is determined as undeliverable in said determining.

27. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The program as set forth in claim 18, further comprising:

giving a predetermined point to the receiver if-when the delivery form is determined as forwarding or keeping in said determining.

28. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The program as set forth in claim 18, wherein in said generating, if-when the delivery form is determined as forwarding or keeping in said determining, delivery request information addressed to the distributor is generated by using forwarding destination information or keeping place information registered for the receiver in advance.

29. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The program as set forth in claim 18, further comprising:

receiving and registering information of a specified customer member from the terminal of the customer member, the specified customer member being different from the customer member, and

wherein, in said determining, if-when the receiver is not available for receiving and the specified customer member is registered for the receiver to receive the package on behalf of the receiver, the schedule information for the specified customer member is referenced.

30. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The program as set forth in claim 18, further comprising:

if-when a delivery request to a non-member, who is to receive the package, is received from a terminal of the sender of a package, registering information of the non-member included in the delivery request as provisional customer member information;

sending a customer member registration request to the non-member; and

sending information registered as the provisional customer member information to a terminal of the non-member if-when membership registration is requested from the terminal of the non-member.

31. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The program as set forth in claim 18, wherein in said receiving and registering, schedule information regarding one of the forms of receiving the package addressed to the customer member is received as a predetermined template selection instruction from the terminal of the customer member.

32. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The program as set forth in claim 18, wherein said determining comprises sending a schedule input request to the receiver if-when the schedule information pf-of the receiver indicates the schedule information is not fixed.

33. (PREVIOUSLY AMENDED) The program as set forth in claim 31, wherein said determining comprises sending the sender a notice indicating scheduling in progress.

34. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) An apparatus for processing physical distribution information, comprising:

a schedule register, which receives and registers schedule information, regarding ~~one of~~ a plurality of forms of receiving a package addressed to a customer member, from a terminal of the customer member, the schedule information comprising at least one of the forms of receiving the package addressed to the customer member for each of a plurality of days within a predetermined period;

a determining unit, which determines a delivery form with reference to at least the schedule information of the receiver registered by said schedule register if-when the receiver is a customer member, if-when a shipment request is received from a terminal of a sender of a package; and

a delivery request generator, which generates delivery request information for a distributor in accordance with the delivery form if-when the delivery form determined by said determining unit involves a movement of the package.

35. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The apparatus as set forth in claim 34, further comprising:

a second register, which registers scheduled delivery information in the schedule information of the receiver ~~if~~when the delivery form determined by said determining unit involves a movement of the package.

36. (PREVIOUSLY AMENDED) The apparatus as set forth in claim 34, further comprising:

a transmitter, which sends the distributor information regarding the delivery form determined by said determining unit before starting to deliver the package.

37. (PREVIOUSLY AMENDED) The apparatus as set forth in claim 34, further comprising:

a receiving unit, which receives a delivery completion notice comprising receiving status data from a computer of the distributor.

38. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The apparatus as set forth in claim 37, further comprising:

means for granting a predetermined point to the receiver ~~if~~when the receiving status data included in the delivery completion notice indicates the delivery has been performed by following a delivery schedule specified in the delivery form.

39. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The apparatus as set forth in claim 37, further comprising:

means for granting a predetermined point to the receiver ~~if~~when the delivery form determined by said determining unit indicates that delivery to a home of the receiver of the package and the receiving status data included in the delivery completion notice indicates that receiving has been performed by following a delivery schedule specified in the delivery form.

40. (PREVIOUSLY AMENDED) The apparatus as set forth in claim 34, further comprising:

a receiving unit, which receives and registers information regarding a fixed delivery charge from a computer of the distributor after the package is received by the distributor.

41. (PREVIOUSLY AMENDED) The apparatus as set forth in claim 34, wherein the delivery form is determined as undeliverable by said determining unit.

42. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The apparatus as set forth in claim 34, further comprising:

a transmitter, which sends the sender a notice comprising information regarding a deliverable date ~~if~~when the delivery form is determined as undeliverable by said determining unit.

43. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The apparatus as set forth in claim 34, further comprising:

means for granting a predetermined point to the receiver ~~if~~when the delivery form is determined as forwarding or keeping by said determining unit.

44. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The apparatus as set forth in claim 34, wherein, ~~if~~when the delivery form is determined as forwarding or keeping by said determining unit, said delivery request generator generates delivery request information addressed to the distributor by using forwarding destination information or keeping place information registered for the receiver in advance.

45. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The apparatus as set forth in claim 34, further comprising:

a receiving unit, which receives and registers information of a specified customer member from the terminal of the customer member, the specified customer member being different from the customer member, and

wherein, ~~if~~when the receiver is not available for receiving and the specified customer member is registered for the receiver to receive the package on behalf of the receiver, said determining unit references the schedule information for the specified customer member.

46. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The apparatus as set forth in claim 34, further comprising:

means for registering information of a non-member, who is to receive the package, included in a delivery request to the non-member as provisional customer member information if when the delivery request to the non-member is received from a terminal of a sender of the package;

a transmitter, which sends a customer member registration request to the non-member; and

a transmitter, which sends information registered as the provisional customer member information to a terminal of the non-member if when membership registration is requested from the terminal of the non-member.

47. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The ~~method~~apparatus as set forth in claim 34, wherein said schedule register receives schedule information regarding one of the forms of receiving the package addressed to the customer member as a predetermined template selection instruction from the terminal of the customer member.

48. (PREVIOUSLY AMENDED) The apparatus as set forth in claim 34, wherein said determining unit comprises a transmitter, which sends a schedule input request to the receiver if the schedule information of the receiver indicates the schedule information is not fixed.

49. (PREVIOUSLY AMENDED) The apparatus as set forth in claim 34, wherein said determining unit comprises a transmitter, which sends the sender a notice indicating scheduling in progress.

50. (NEW) A method comprising:
receiving schedule information for each of a plurality of days within a predetermined period, from a member regarding forms of receiving a package addressed to the member;
determining one of the forms with reference to the schedule information received and forwarding the determined form to a sender of the package upon a request from the sender; and
generating delivery request information for a distributor in accordance with the determined form.